## FIGHTING THEM OVER.

What Our Veterans Have to Say About

Their Old Campaigns.

BATTLE OF SHILOH.

The Part Taken by the 41st Ill. in One of the Biggest Fights of the War. THE following address was delivered at

Shelbyville, Oct. 12, by E. P. Lee: The new famous battlefield at Shileh, or Pittsburg Landing, has been the theme of many writers since it was made forever his- A Pennsylvanian Says His Regiment Did torical by the stirring events that took piace there on April 6 and 7, 1862. In giving a brief sketch of the 41st Ill. at Shiloh, I shall only give a part of the scenes that occurred on that field, as no one private soldier could give all the many incidents that happened there. The 41st was fortunate in very many things and unfortunate in others; for if there was any hard fighting to be done it was never slighted, but, in the language of Col. Bryant, of the 12th Wis., at the fight at Coldwater. Miss., it was, "Go in, 41st; you have been tried and have proved yourselves good soldiers." The regiment was fortupate in having good and brave commanders, Cols, Pugh, Tupper, Nale, Warner, McFadden, and others, who never knew what fear was, and who would have died for the flag and the Union, as did Col. Tupper, and many others of his brave boys, at Shiloh.

When Gen. Grant and his victorious army returned from Fort Donelson, and the Army of the Tennessee was ordered up the river to Pittsburg Landing, how well we all remember that never to be forgotten scene as that grand army boarded the great fleet of steamers and swung out into the Tennessee River, with bands playing, tags waving, and troops cheering, as they would pass each other on the way to Dixie, and to meet the enemies of our Union and flag on other fields. You will remember the two steamers with the steam caliopes, the Glen Dale, and the Silver Moon, one playing "Dixie," and the other, the "Girl I Left Behind Me." The dist Ill. was fortunate in being assigned to the steamer Alexander Scott. the swiftest boat on the river, and we passed all others except Gen. Hurlbut's headquarters boat, and arrived at Pittsburg Landing in advance of the rest of the army. Loading our guns on the steamer, a skirmish-line was thrown out, and Serg't A. D. McHenry, of Co. F. claims the honor of being the first man to set foot on shore at this now famous Landing. The 41st Ill. was the first regiment to land

When the army went up the river there had been two companies of the 32d lil, and a gunboat up there previous to this, and the 32d boys had a skirmish with the Confederates and had one or two men wounded and killed, but the 41st was the first to take possession and in their front. Soon the regiment arrived and went into camp, and the remainder of the division, along with the other divisions, landed and went into camp, Sherman and McClernand out near the old Shiloh Church, and W. H. L. Wallace and Prentiss on the right of Hurlbut, with Gen. Lew. Wallace's Division eight miles down the river, at Crump's Landing. Thus the army remained until the morning of April 6, when the battle began.

You will remember the scene that occurred on that morning when we heard the roar of the long roll as it came down the line from Wallace's Division, until it reached the left of our division, and we heard the shrill, keen voice of old Col. Pugh calling out, "Fall in, 41st Ill.," and in a very few minutes we were in line and ready to ge to the front. You will also remember the admonition of that grand old man when he said. "Members of the 41st Ill., I shall expect every man to do his duty to-day; and, remember, the State of Illinois is watching you on every battlefield. Let the honor of our State be maintained, and every man stand firm at his post,"

As we marched to the front there were many retreating stragglers that were rushing by to the Landing, and Col. Pugh ordered them to fall in on the left of his regiment and stand their ground. We were assigned a position just to the left of the old Bell House, and advanced some distance to the front, when there came a roar of musketry on the right, and the whole line fired off their guns. The result was a large cow was killed, that being all there was in our immediate front at that time. We were then placed in position near the Bell House and ordered to attack, Gen. Grant and his staff arrived between 8 and 9 o'clock and passed out between our lines to see how Sherman and McClernand were getting along. He soon returned and said, "Boys, you will soon have something to do," which was verified by the assault made across the open field at the Peach Orchard. This Gen. Johnston said was the key to the position, and it was here the Confederate chieftain orged forward his brigades and divisions until he became desperate. and leading a brigade against the 41st, 28th, and 32d Ill., lost his life.

I had the pleasure of visiting that famous old battlefield two years ago, and just to the right of the Bell House stands an evergreen tree which marks the place where Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston fell. It is just opposite the position held by the left wing of the 28th Ill., the right of the 41st Ill.

You will remember that as the battle opened there came a regiment in on our left at a doublequick to fill up the gap between the 41st and Stewart's Brigade. This was the fighting 9th Ili., a regiment that never knew what fear was. At Donelson it had fought beside us, and at Shiloh it lost 365 men in killed and wounded. Standing by our side on that field on Sunday, when the Confederates had made assault after assault against our lines from 10 a. m. till 2 p. m., and the left was turned, we were ordered to fall back and form a new line, which we did in perfect order. We were out of ammunition, and only had what could be found in the boxes of some dead comrades.

Gen. Hurlbut had three times ordered Col. Tupper to take the regiment to the rear, and supply it with ammunition. Maj. Warner had gene for a wagonload, but had not yet returned. Col. Tupper said: "We will not, and we must not, give up this position." He ordered the men to fix bayonets, and said: "We will use the cold steel before we will be driven back." About this time a rebel bullet went crashing through his forehead, and he fell, being supported by Serg't-Maj. James Coleman, who G.A.R. assisted him to lie down. This was his last battle, and he sleeps in the cemetery at Decatur Maj. Warner arrived at this time with the ammunition, and assumed command of the regiment, as Col. Pugh had been taken early he marning to command the brigade Col Williams, of the 3d Iowa, being wounded. We merched back to our camp, where we replenished our cartridge-boxes, and got ready to take our places on the last line of defense, one mile from the Landing. As we were nearing this line, Gen. Hurlbut rode up and inquired what regiment this was. When told that it was the 41st Ill., he said: "I am proud to see the 41st 111, maintaining such good order."

We took up our position just north of the siege battery that had been gotten up from the river and the line of artillery formed by Gen. Grant and Col. Webster, his Chief of Staff, and witnessed the assault of Gen, Chalmers's Mississippi Brigade on the left of the line along Dill's Run. With the repulse of this brigade ended the battle on the 6th. In the meantime Col. Pugh came in and was immediately sur- the rough box containing the remains. In rounded by the boys, who took him by the hand, and rejoiced that he had been spared through the terrible struggle of the day. He said: "Boys, I am all right, but I fear our

This was the darkest hour the Western Army ever saw, when, overpowered and outnumbered, it had been driven back to within one | ful wound. mile of the Landing; but it was only a temporary defeat, for with the early dawn of the with a black beard, and apparently under 40 following day the battle was renewed and the years of age. enemy driven from the field in perfect rout. rain pouring down upon us; the wounded and day we were placed in reserve, and only made McClellan. one charge. On the right Buell's army and As for Gen. Thomas A. Morris, I think his Gen. Lew Wallace's Division had arrived and eye was shut by a forged receipt from rebei took the places of the troops who had fought | officers, for the body, as the above proves conall day on Sunday. We were witnesses of the clusively, and the escort never went near a last charge on Monday evening, at 4 p. m., rebel command.

as victory perched on the Union banners he caught up his cap and gave three cheers, and

the battle was over. We returned to our camp, which had been occupied by the Confederates the night before. and almost all the tents had dead and wounded in them. Carrying out the dead, we put down hay and went to bed and slept soundly. The

been able to ascertain, but I think it was about 175 in killed and wounded. I visited the National Cemetery at the Landing, and there found 28 comrades of the 41st sleeping on the banks of the river. I planted a flag on each grave, and instructed the Superintendent of the cemetery to see that on each Memorial Day the flag of the free for which they the annual Reunion of the 41st Ill., at | died should wave over their last resting place.

PEACH TREE CREEK.

Some Fighting There.

NDER the heading "Fighting Them Over" in the issue of Nov. 26, 1891, Comrade Clark undertakes to fight the battle of Peach Tree Creek. On the evening of the 19th of July, 1864, Gen. Geary's Division crossed Peach Tree Creek-or at least the Second Brigade, of which the writer was a member, did. We came to a halt on the first rise of ground, formed in line, and built breastworks. You bet there was some hustling done, for it became quite dark before we got the work completed. The next morning about 9 o'clock we were ordered out in front of the breastworks. We did not remain there long until we got the command "Attenion, 111th! Forward!-Guide right!-March! We marched, but came to a halt; but before we had advanced 400 yards we met Mr. Hood and his men. I believed then, and do yet, that if we had remained in our works 15 minutes longer we would have had a chance to have used hem, which would have been the first time on Sherman's march to the sea.

I do not want to take any of the laureis that belong to the 28th Pa. or the 29th Ohio from them, but from the way Comrade Clark has the line of battle formed it looks as if the above regiments were the only regiments that did any fighting that day. I want it distinctly understood that the 111th Pa., of which the writer was a member, did their full share of the fighting, although we were driven off the field at one time by the enemy getting in our rear, through no fault of ours, but of the First Division, who lay on our right. There was a ravine between our regiment and the First Division, which the latter should have occupied, but did not do so. I remember very well when Gen. Hooker

came riding along the line, with hat in hand, his gray hair standing on end, and shouting: "Where in thunder is Gen. Williams?" You can bet he found him, for there were none who could escape the engle eye of fighting Joe Hooker. Comrade Clark also says that the 33d N. J. did the skirmishing. This I will not dispute, but I do say they did not do any skirmishing in front of the 111th Pa. that day. What skirmishing was done in our front was hold the place. The skirmish-line advanced they received a raking fire on their right. that ran down the road, the rebs yelling Bull few days, then crossed the Potomac at Berlin, had been saved. Kirk's Brigade, of McCook's Sedgwick, Wyo., by reason of expiration of out about one mile, and found no armed enemy | This must have been at the time we were | Run! ing in line and taking our place in the fight.

I forgot to mention that as we were driven from the field my eyes witnessed something that I never shall forget. There lay our noble commander, Col. George A. Cobham, mortally wounded. A braver man never drew a saber. The last words I heard him speak were, "Boys, for God's sake, don't desert the colors;" and don't you think for one moment that we ever

Comrades of the 111th Pa., speak up. Let's hear from you through the columns of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, the only paper that stands up and fights for the old vets. If there is to be any more fighting done at Peach Tree Creek I am perfectly willing that some other comrade shall do it .- J. P. WATERS, Co. E, 111th Pa., Venango, Pa.

SPANISH FORT, ALA.

A Claim as to the First Troops Inside the Rebel Stronghold.

"UCH has been said about the capture of Spanish Fort, Ala. It has been claimed by different regiments from time to time since the war that Spanish Fort. At the G.A.R. Encampment at South McAlester, I. T., on the 28th day of April, 1892, myself and several old bullet-stoppers of the late war were talking over old camp times and battle scenes, and of different engagements that we had participated in. The taking of Spanish Fort came up, and one of the comrades, who belonged to the 124th Ill., claimed to know all about the taking the fort. His statement was that the 95th Ill. was the

first regiment that took possession. Comrades, when you read this you can put this statement down on your books as a fact. some time about the 1st of April, 1865, Maj. Edward Bonham was ordered to take command of Cos. A. B. Cand D of the 47th Ill., and under cover of darkness, with picks and shovels, dig an intrenchment in front of Spanish Fort near the rifle-pits. The Major obeyed orders, the intrenchment was dug, and the above-named

companies were placed in said intrenchment. We had not been in possession of the intrenchment long before the rebs found us out and kept up a lively shelling, which I well remember. Often a shell would be thrown near us, sometimes in front, and often in our rear. I remember one shell that hit a large pine log in front of or on the edge of the intrenchment and bursted, and a piece of the shell hit a Sergeant of Co. B on the head and relieved him of some of his hair, which caused the boys to scatter, according to the Major's orders.

I know it was but a short time after the Sergeant was wounded that the boys in the riflepits raised the vell, "Come on, Sixteenth Corps!" I was in comman t of Co. D. 47th Ill., and John B. Harlow was the Second Lieutenant of the same company. He is now Postmaster at St. Louis, Mo. I know when the men in the pits raised the yell to come on that Harlow left Co. D and joined the men in the pits and went over the breastworks, and soon Maj. Bonham was ordered up with Cos. A, B, C and D of the 47th Ill., and soon crossed the rebel breastworks and gamed possession of Spanish Fort, and the Major placed guards over the cannon in the fort. If any of the readers of your paper doubt this statement, I refer them to John B. Harlow, Postmaster, St. Louis, Mo., or Maj. Ed Bonham, Sioux Falls, S. D., and many others .- J. H. Bowman, Chief Mustering Officer, Department Indian Territory,

A LITTLE MORE LIGHT Turned on the Subject of the Rebel General

was killed in the battle of Carrick's Ford, on Cheat River, July 14, 1861, was brought up to Wheeling, W. Va., on the 16th, having been placed in a metallic casket sent down to Grafton from this city, All of the General's private effects were carefully preserved, and everything in which the friends could have the slightest interest were forwarded with the remains, which were sent on the 17th of July, in charge of Adams Express Company, to Washington, via Pittsburg and Baltimore, and then under flag of truce to

his former home in Virginia. As this was the first arrival of a dead body from the battlefield, the people were greatly excited, and the station was literally packed with people curious to get even a glimpse at after years, during the war, hundreds of bodies passed through in wooden overcoats without

causing a remark. It was a minie-ball that caused the death of Gen. Garnett, and it entered the middle of his the body dreadfully, and making a most fright-

The General was a small, sparely-built man,

To all of this I was an eye-witness, and I All night we lay in line of battle with the most certainly think Comrade Carl Bancroft was right when he says he saw the body of dying could be heard calling for help out on Gen. Garnett packed in ice at Grafton, and the field. The gunboats threw a shell up that Comrade M. C. Connett was not aware of Dill's Run and out into the enemy's camp what was going on in camp after he started on every 15 minutes during the night. On Mon- his coveted ride to the headquarters of Gen.

when Gen. Grant led the brigade to the front, I do not depend on my memory for what I and they made that famous charge that drove have written, but have the facts in diary form. Beaurepard and his army from the field. Col. dates and names accurate, and can furnish Pugh watched the charge like a hawk. With | further evidence if necessary .- E. L. Nicoll, his eyes fixed on the column he saw the Union Private, Battery D, 1st R. I. L. A., Wheeling, line go over the ridge and down the slope, and I W. Va.

A 45th Pa. Comrade Goes Over the Places His Regiment Fought at South Mountain

AVING a few days of vacation to spare, I made up my mind to take a trip to South Mountain and Antieexact loss in the 41st lil. at Shiloh I have not tam, and thinking perhaps some of the boys of the old Ninth Corps, and especially those of my own dear regiment, the 45th Pa., would like to hear how those battlefields look after the lapse of nearly 30 years leads me to give a short description of them, for I consider it quite a privilege once again to be able to visit and view those grounds, where so many of our boys laid down their lives.

Leaving the goodly city of Philadelphia early on Friday morning, Aug. 19, I arrived safely in old Frederick City in time for dinner. By the way, I should have stated that at Wrightsville, Pa., I met our old friend and Adjutant, Budding, on the train, and we traveled some distance together. After dinner we took a stroll around the town. Frederick is the same sleepy place it was when we marched through on Sept.

I soon took the stage for Middletown, eight miles away, and I assure you I appreciated the drive much better than I did our march over the same road. There are some very fine views, especially the one when you reach the top of the summit that divides Frederick from Middietown and look over Middletown Valley. Arriving at Middletown, I put up at the City

of one street, all down hill one way and up hill the other. The landlord of the hotel gives you plenty to eat and a good bed; you are not tormented for a shine or tips; he does everything for you; the balance you can do yourself. Another thing, he does not appear to be one bit more afraid to kill chickens than we used to be. Middletown is just four miles from where we fought and where Reno monument is located. Early on Saturday morning we-that is, my friend Gaver and myself, a resident here, and a G.A.R. member, belonging to the Post at Frederick-started for old South Mountain. Do you remember at the edge of the town the little creek which we forded dryshod, the rebs having burned the bridge on the right of the road? On the left was the still-smoking ruins of a barn and a smithshop. How after marching a short distance out the National Pike the rebs get the range on us and commenced shelling us? We then filed off to our left, under the brow of the hills, their shells then flying high over our heads. Soon after we climbed the mountain road. Well do I remember that Sun-

The old stone wall which we lay behind before we were ordered forward remains the same as of old, and when I stood on top of it, and looked down the road over which we had marched, I can assure you I did some thinking. The two little houses near by remain the same, and the tree under which our band branch, scattering the band in all directions -some of them I am told never stopped short of Harrisburg-well, the tree is still standing done by our own pickets. Comrade Clark says in all its glory. And the section of the battery

lane, in which we found so many dead rebs. The lane has been changed, and is now down by the little mountain house where the well was in which we buried so many rebs. They have all been exhumed and taken South and

I suppose you all know that the Reno mouument stands on the road about half way between the little house and the edge of the woods through which we fought; is of granite, surrounded by a stone wall, and covers 140 feet of ground. I think it is about time that we Columbus, O. were erecting a stone to mark the ground over which we fought; for almost invariably the accounts I read speak of the 45th N. Y., instead of the 45th Pa., doing the fighting and making the charge that drove the rebs from

After taking a view of the surrounding country-for it is grand beyond description-and once again going over our battle-ground and recalling different events, I reluctantly bid they were entitled to the honor of taking farewell to old South Mountain, I think for the last time, feeling more than sad for the many dear boys who fell. We started for the old Stone Bridge. Afterwards we changed our minds and thought we would take the National Cemetery in first. Will only state that the cometrry is very fine, and is kept in very good condition. Some 30 of the 45th Pa. boys sleep their last sleep here.

Remaining here only a short time, we drove to Sharpsburg and took dinner, after which we started for the more than historical Burnside Bridge. Arriving there we drove under the shade of a tree, tied our horse, and started to take a good view of everything.

Do you recall the litte lane down which we marched that connects with the main road that runs along the creek and over the bridge? How we came down the lane, filed to our right up along the main road, then to our left over the bridge, then again to our right along the creek for a short distance, and then by regimental front up the steep hill to the fence on top? How a grapeshot struck a top rail, sent it flying through the air, striking, I think, Bierbower, of Co. B? The fence has been removed, but the houses and barns down to which we got look the same, and what I thought at the time was the outskirts of Sharpsburg, but it is nearly a mile away. This reads very simple at this late day, but how different nearly 30 years ago. Do you know, I can see Gen. Burnside yet running down the said hill with his hat in his hand. Going down to the creek to wash my hands I drank a little of the water and thought of the night before the battle; how I had filled my canteen, and how on my way back to the regiment a poor fellow kept calling "Water, water," and when I lifted his head and gave him a drink, "Oh! how good! Oh! how good!" I can hear his voice and words to this day. It makes me feel sad. How thankful we who have been spared should be. Taking one look more we returned to Sharpsburg, and from thence to Keedysville and to Boonsboro, where we struck the National Pike, passing the house of Mrs. Dahlgren. To my right I can see old South Mountain looming up. There is a sort of fascination about it for me, and I sit and gaze at it as long

Arriving safely in Middletown in time for supper, I spent Sunday resting. Sitting on the front porch I imagined I could see ourselves marching along with that mighty host. Little did I dream then that nearly 30 years after that I would be sitting here.

my trip, and wish you all could take the same. 17th Mich., for they were on our right on the 14th of September-Post 2, G.A.R., Philadelphia, Pa.

AT GETTYSBURG.

Cutler's Brigade Opened the Battle-Claim of Iron Brigade Refuted.

N the issue of Sept. 22 is published an article by B. H. Tripp, 7th Wis., which he says is "in the interest of true history," but is so full of gross error that I am surprised at its publication. He endeavors to establish by his own unsupported statement the proposition that the First Brigade of Wadsworth's Division, First Corps, was in the lead on the Emmitsburg Pike July 1, 1863, and also the first infantry to open fire; that the Second Brigade (Cutler's) followed the First Brigade back and came out above the breast, tearing on the march, and instead of crossing the fields from the Codori House to the Seminary, followed the road around through the village of Gettysburg before engaging the enemy. He clinches his argument by saying this must be so, or else he (Tripp) "was not at Gettysburg at

Any soldier of Wadsworth's Division, or student of the history of the battle of Gettysburg, who read his article, of course must agree with Comrade Tripp that he was not there, or else he has a very poor memory and has failed entirely to read the official history and reports. I have before seen in your paper statements from Iron Brigade men that they opened the fight. This is the first case of their sending Cutler's Brigade around through the city of Gettysburg to give the veterans of Meredith's Brigade the first chance at the enemy.

Comrade Tripp cannot cite a report nor give the name of a single living line-of-battle member of Cutler's Brigade who will agree with him that it kept the road around through the BUNE can get the book mailed free. Address THE town when approaching the field. The official STERLING REMEDY CO., Box 723, Indiana reports made at the time state who were in the | Mineral Springs, Ind.

BATTLEFIELDS REVISITED. field that morning; viz. Cutler's Brigade, 76th N. Y. at the head; that they crossed the field from the Codori House to the Seminary; engaged Davis's Brigade just north of and on the Chambersburg Pike, which was held by Hall's Brigade was coming into line on Cutler's left, and forming at the McPherson Woods, and immediately engaged Archer. The question of priority was of no account then, neither is it now; but the fact, of which we are all proud, does exist that upon that line, so hastily taken up, some of the best open-field fighting of the whole war was done. More brave men were killed here, in proportion to numbers engaged, than at any other point on the field. Witness the inscriptions upon their monuments along Reynolds avenue: also the official reports, both Union and Confederate. If Comrade Tripp will turn to Volume 27, Part I, Rebellion Records; Official Reports of Gen. Meade, page 114; Gen. Doubleday, page 244; Gen. Wadsworth, page 265; Gen. Cutler, page 281; Col. Dawes, 6th Wis., page 275; Col. Cook, 76th N. Y., page 285, he will conclude that perhaps ho was not there, as he will find they all argue

In closing let me advise all comrades, or others who propose to write accounts of campaigns or battles for publication, to first read all official reports bearing upon the subject. This may not be so important in giving personal reminiscences; but even then they are more interesting to the average reader when in line with dates and circumstances as they actually occurred. At least, don't stake your Hotel, Middletown, if you remember, is a town reputation and honor as a soldier upon your own unassisted memory of events, lest you find yourself in a hole along with Comrade Tripp.-H. H. LYMAN, 147th N. Y., Oswego,

> IN THE VALLEY. A Comrade Thinks Fighting Began at Har-

per's Ferry, July 4, 1864. N your issue of Aug. 18, I read the article of Comrade Alfred Turner. He says that he quotes from his diary, which says that Early's attack on Bolivar Hights and Harper's Ferry was on July 6, 1864. Here he is in error, as I know positively that there was fighting there on July 4, and am not sure but that some was done on the 3d. Our brigade, 10th West Va., 23d Ill., and one battery, I think, B. 1st W. Va., and a few cavalry, under command of Col. Mulligan, were attacked at Leetown on Sunday morning, July 3. We were driven back, crossed the Potomac off Sheperdstown, and during the night of the 4th we marched via Sharpsburg, the "Stone Bridge," and to Pleasant Valley, Sandy Hook, and reached Maryland Hights sometime after dark, July 4, 1864.

There were two 100-pounders on the top of Maryland Hights which were engaged a good part of that day in firing at the rebels. We could see the smoke and hear the reports sevsought shelter, when a solid shot struck a top | eral miles before we reached the Hights. I think Early's attack on the Hights was on the 6th. There was also a night attack.

Our brigade did not go up the Valley, but down the river to Petersville, where we lay a marched via Pursellville, struck the Leesburg | Corps, came up and drove the rebels back, and | service. Jumping down off the wall I proceeded to Pike after Early had passed, followed him up and through the woods where so many of our | and had a skirmish at Snicker's Ferry, July boys lay down their lives,-and none has more | 15 or 16, and I think the battle was fought the reason to be thankful to the Lord than I,- next day. The next battle that I was in coming to the edge of the woods and the fence | was at Winchester or Kernestown, July 24. through which we fired over into the little 1864, and the last one, as I was badly wounded, and was not with the regiment again until Feb. 14, 1865.

I also think he is mistaken about the battle at Winchester, Aug. 17. Sheridan's battle of Winchester was fought Sept. 19, and Fisher's Hill, Sept. 22, 1864. The only correct date he gives is Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864. If his diary is as full of errors all through as those quoted by him, it is worthless as far as dates are concerned. - THOS. S. NUTTER, First Lieutenant, Co. K, 10th W. Va., 131 E. State street,

AT GETTYSBURG.

Regarding the Controversy Between the 2d Mass, and the 27th Ind.

N your issue of Aug. 4 Comrade Raukin, o the 27th Ind., cites my statement that the 3d Wis. had about 282 men in action at the battle of Antietam, while Col. Ruger puts it at 340, as an evidence of error on my part. I made that statement with the full knowledge that Col. Ruger had officially reported the number of men as 340, but all the evidence obtainable leads me to believe that there is no exact knowledge of the number, and that it was less than 300, or, as I stated, about 282. If the matter was in controversy I could

satisfy Comrade Rankin of this. The position of the 3d Wis. at Gettysburg on the morning of the third day was on the left of the 24th Mass, and a little in rear, not 150 yards, as stated by Comrade Rankin, but less than 30 yards, with a light skirmish-line covered behind rocks and trees close to the edge of the meadow. The enemy were not in strong force directly across the meadow from us. When this movement commenced the regiment moved forward to the edge of the meadow, where we stood inactive witnesses of the fight. When the 2d Mass, had obliqued far enough to the left to bring them in front of our regiment they were comparatively sheltered from the fire of the enemy, and the 27th Ind. had fallen back to the edge of the woods. The arrival of Gen.

Ruger doubtless changed the manner of attack. I have no controversy with Comrade Rankin as to the fighting qualities of his regiment. No man admires them or their splendid service more than I do. We have stood shoulder to shoulder with them and the 2d Mass. on many a hard-fought field. I don't know where they were when the charge was ordered, but I know they appeared in the meadow so nearly simultaneous with the 2d Mass. that I supposed they started together .- J. W. HINKLEY, West Su-

GEN. GEORGE A. CUSTER.

A Comrade Who Never Knew Him to be Tyrannical or Unjust.

N your issue April 28 I notice the statements of a 1st Iowa cavalryman, who, I am not surprised to know, was ashamed to sign his article relative to the late Gen. G. A. Custer. I again notice in your issue of Ang. 11 another equally interesting tirade by one who signs himself Joseph Lackey. It seems a little strange to those who did service under Gen. Custer, when there was work to do, that nothing of this kind ever happened; but, on the other hand, everybody was very much in love with him and would not speak enough in his praise. It also seems strange to the On Monday I started for Gettysburg, via writer that history has never written anything Frederick, and from there I returned home. of the kind, but on the contrary. These par-And I can assure you I thoroughly enjoyed | ties, who claim to know so much, and to have suffered so much, have waited 27 years and Hoping some of you may be interested in this until Gen. Custer was dead and buried, before short and imperfect description, especially the | they thought of all the hardships they had to endure while in his mmand. I should think they must feel proud to publish any such trash, knowing it would injure no one but themselves. but might chance to hurt the feelings of some of the living relatives of Gen. Custer. As there are always two sides to a question, it might be well enough for these gallant soldiers to inform the public by the same means they have taken to vilify Gen. Custer what kind of men he had to deal with after the war closed, and it may happen that extreme measures were needed in order to get along with them, for he certainly never had occasion to resort to any such measures during the war. I doubt whether a single man of the old Third Cavalry Division can be found to verify either of the two gentlemen who profess to have suffered so much at his

Trusting you will give this the same pub licity you have the other side-S. A. HARRING-TON, Co. C, 22d N. Y. Cav., Second Brigade, Third Cavalry Division, Marshall, Minn.

"There's Confusion in the Craft." J. D. Wilkinson, Co. E, 1st Mo., Plattsburg, N. Y., writes: "In your answer in Picket Shots to my query as to the part taken by Eugene A. Carr in the battle of Wilson's Creek you say he was Captain of Co. I, 1st Cav. Permit me to say Milton T. Carr was Captain of Co. 1, 1st Cav., and Eugene A. is still to be accounted for at Wilson's Creek. I agree with

you as to his being at Pea Ridge, but still

doubt his being at Wilson's Creek."

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## PICKET SHOTS.

battery, and while this was happening the Iron | From Alert Comrades All Along the Line.

The Sixth Corps in the Valley.

A. BENDON, Co. A, 87th Pa., Portsmouth, Iowa, says that Mart Howe's account of the fight at Opequon is not correct, according to the writer's recollection. He claims that the Eighth Corps was "just in time to save the reputation of the Sixth Corps, which struck the enemy's left and routed them, after which came the magnificent charge of the cavalry." The writer says that the Sixth Corps was on the Berryville pike, or at least the Third Division was there, as the 87th Pa. was on the right of said pike, and he knows that they were not compelled to fall back until the Second Division of the Nineteenth Corps broke, which left a gap between the Sixth Corps and the Second Division of the Nineteenth, of which the rebels took immediate advantage, and gave both corps considerable trouble. The writer being wounded at that time, and therefore, through no fault of his, he stayed where he could see all the movements; but he would have liked to have been able to run like the Eighth Corps men did at Cedar Creek. He thinks that Comrade Lockhart's account was about correct, as the Sixth Corps did not have anyone to sustain them, and he cannot see how for a moment the comrade could think that the Eighth Corps was so terribly good for both fighting and marching, as there were men from the same State in the writer's division, the 116th and 122d Ohio, who were good soldiers as ever walked on the footstool, and they belonged to the Sixth Corps. What Happened at Chickamauga. W. H. Frost, Sergeant, 4th Ind. battery, says

that Comrade Voorhees's article as to the part taken by Battery A, 1st Mich. L. A., at Chickamauga is partly correct, but in some things he is wrong. The writer belonged to the 4th Ind. battery, known as Bush's battery, attached to Stark weather's Brigade, of Baird's Division. At daylight on the 19th of September, 1863, they stopped at the fork of three roads to get breakfast, and while eating Brannon's Division passed them, formed line of battle, and advanced into the timber in an easterly direction, and began to skirmish with the enemy, which was the first intimation that they had that they were in proximity of the Johnnies. In a short time the writer's battery was ordered to follow them, and in forming the line Starkweather's Brigade was placed on the left of the division, while the battery was on the left of the brigade, the writer's gun being the extreme left of the battery. They went but a short distance when ordered to march by the right flank, so that when the enemy fired upon them the writer's gun was not under fire, and the gun was saved by the Lieutenant ordering the writer not to unlimber. When they got back and had rallied, this piece was the only one that the battery (4th Ind.) got all their guns back, and if the writer remembers, Battery A, 1st Mich. L. A., got four of their guns, and Battery B, 5th Regulars, which was in the division, got four of theirs. The Michigan battery found two of their guns in Chattanooga when they got there, and Battery B one of theirs. There were several men killed and wounded in the writer's battery, one of whom was a Frenchman who had been through the Crimean war, who was a member of the 79th Pa., but was detailed into the battery. The battery also lost its commanding officer, Lieut, Flaneburg, who died in

A Ricketts Batteryman Supports Carroll's

Brigade Claim. W. H. Thurston, First Lieutenant of Ricketts's battery (F), 1st Pa. L. A., says ho is becoming interested in the controversy between the survivors of Ames's Brigade, of the Eleventh Corps, and Carroll's Brigade, of the Second Corps, as both parties seem to be confident that thereby preventing the defeat of the Army of the Potomac at Gettysburg on the evening of July 2, 1863. The writer has no more interest will state a few facts and ask a few questions regarding this affair. He does not believe that penetrated our lines far enough to capture Weidrich's battery, and that they also had possession of some of Ricketts's guns, which handling canister at the time, and was severely wounded. The rebels appeared in the battery and took three of his comrades prisoners, and carried them off to Libby Prison, while he escaped by lying down in the redoubt by the guns for a time, and where a desperate conflict ensued for their possession. A large number of the troops in the battery's front swarmed back past it, and it seemed as though the battle was against us, and the fate of the army hung, as it were, in a balance; but relief was at hand, and came in the shape of Carroll's Brigade, which, like a rushing torrent, swept through the battery, and the famous Louisiana Tigers, who played so much havoc on that fateful night, went out into the darkness, followed by their comrades, to molest them no more that night. The question the writer now wishes to ask is, How did the enemy get into the battery, if it is true that Ames's Brigade stood like a stone wall and repulsed them; for they admit that they lay in front of the above batteries? The writer cannot account for it, unless Comrade Peck was asleep or absent at the time; otherwise, there must have been an arrangement with Hayes and his rebels; but the writer would not be guilty of easting reflections on Ames's gallant brigade. But truth is truth, and the gallant charge made by Carroll's Brigade on the eveinng of July 2, 1863, emblazons history's brightest pages and nothing can efface

Capture of Gunboats at Sabine Pass. John P. Fredd, Marine on the U. S. S. San Jacinto, Fort Jackson, Tallapoosa, and Magnolia, Pottstown, Pa., who served in both the East and West Gulf Squadrons, thinks he can throw a little light on the capture of the gunboats at Sabine Pass. Oct. 1, 1862, Sabine Pass was taken by the U. S. S. Kensington, Capt. Crocker, and the schooners Seaman and Jones. Jan. 21, 1863, the Morning Light and a schooner were captured by the rebels off Sabine Pass by an expedition sent from the shore. Sept. 9 1863, the gunboats Clifton and Sachem were were riddled from the fortifications on the shore and while they were operating for the landing of a column of troops under Gen. Franklin to be employed in the movement against Texas and Louisiana, which caused the movement to be abandoned. The writer sees nothing to be ashamed of in the loss of these gunboats, as they fought bravely, and only surrendered when riddled by shot. The capture of these gunboats probably gave rise to the cock-and-bull story (rightly ridiculed by Comrade Simmons) of a "gunboat being captured, only one shot having been fired into her portholes," which story it will not do to tell the Marines. The writer spent two long years in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico fighting rebels, chasing blockade runners, and wrestling with the vellow fever, alligators, and gallinippers, and living on half rations, and that story about the gunboats won't go down, as he was there and would have heard of it if it had happened. The Navy did not fight that way. Who Has a Similar Medal?

John Acker, Montrose, S. D., would like to ask any of the comrades, or anyone else who are readers of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, if they have one of the brass souvenirs of William Henry Harrison, "the hero of Tippecanoe, born Feb. 9, 1773; the people's choice"? This medal has the bust of Harrison on one side and a log cabin and a barrel on the other. representing hard cider, which was the drink of the campaign of "Tippecauoe and Tyler, too." The writer has had this souvenir for about 40 years.

The Bear and the Eagle. Jerome B. Inman, Co. K, 2d Mich. Cav., Duluth, Minn., says that the fact of Comrade Adams mixing up the bear with the eagle of the 8th Wis, brings his scattered memory to the surface. He would tell the comrade that what he knows about "Old Abe," the eagle, would make a book, and what he don't know about the bear would make a still larger book. He would like to know what became of "Old Abe," as he thinks it would be gratifying reading to many of the comrades to get a complete history of that wonderful bird from the time he was captured, somewhere in Wisconsin, down to his last days. The bear to which the comrade refers was found by the Union troops chained to the flagstaff at New Madrid, Mo.,

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war, therefore this is something that an commandes with the related the printed description with the views, it makes it very easy. We are giving the exhibitions in Connecticut, and that is all the territory we can attend to. We want good agents in all other States. If you can come here and see the exhibition given, you can then judge for yourself how the public like it, and whether it pays. We shall be pleased to give you a complimentary ticket to the exhibition. Come and look into the business. If you cannot come, then send us your address and we will send you our descriptive catalogue. It is a light, pleasant, and profitable business.

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to get out of there so quickly that they had no time to take the little cuss along with them. When captured he was about four months old, and when the Yankees first came over the breastworks the little fellow stood up against the flagpole and showed fight; but the blue uniforms and the brass buttons attracted his attention, and he soon became a true-blue Yankee. The writer does not know whether the same regiment which carried the eagle captured the bear, but they were seen together in camp, and often seen to have a set-to over the division of rations.

George A. Custer Again.

S. N. Hinman, Belmont, lowa, writes: "I have read with interest, yet with serrow, articles in your valuable paper regarding the character of one of the grandest cavalry leaders the war produced. Many years ago he and his little band, each true to the other and the flag. gave their lives, and to assault the character and reputation of a dead man seems to me not a little cowardly. Maj.-Gen. Geo. A. Custer was to Gen. Sheridan what Sheridan was to Gen. Grant, 'his ablest Captain,' and one in whom he placed implicit confidence. My position was such during the latter part of the war to know Gen. Custer personally and intimately. I have known him to 'race a horse,' but it was generally because he could get nearer the rebs than anybody else, and was not afraid to do so. As to his severity or cruelty to his men, this cannot be said of him while he commanded the Third Cavalry Division. In camp he was as gentle and affectionate as a woman; in battle terribly in earnest, but he never asked his men to go where he would not lead them."

Youngest Soldiers.

Wm. R. Curtis, King City, Cal., is entitled to touch elbows with the youngest soldiers. He was born in Lambertville, N. J., 16 miles up the Delaware River from Trenton, May 25, 1847. He enlisted at Lambertville Sept. 1, 1864, in Co. B. 38th N. J., for one year, or during the war. He was discharged June 30, 1865, at City Point, Va., by reason of telegram "W. D. A. G. O. D." May 29, 1865. He re-enlisted in New York City Sept. 10, 1866, in Co. K, 27th U. S., for three years; was discharged from Co. K. 9th U. S., Sept. 10, 1869, at Fort

L. F. Becker, Clinton, O., writes: "In reading 'Fighting Them Over' one is often amused to see how comrades get mixed. Do not sneer, but let us not forget F., C. and L., boys. I believe that some of us may not have been first to plant the Stars and Stripes on Lookout Mountain, stend in the breach at Fort Sanders, Knoxville, or march up to the canuon's mouth at Resaca, etc.; yet every Union soldier who did his duty won imperishable honor." Remembers the Expedition.

John McGrail, U.S.S. Restless, Providence. R. I., writes: "In the issue of Aug. 4, under the head of 'The Great Rebellion,' I find mention of an armed boat expedition from the U.S.S. Restless capturing rebel schooners in Bull's Bay. This carries me back 30 years ago, as I was one of the men composing that expedition. These vessels were engaged in carrying supplies to the enemy in Charleston. We landed on the island of Cape Romaine and dragged they saved Weidrich's and Ricketts's batteries, our boats across the island, where we lay concealed in some shrubbery on the beach. It gave us a good chance to surprise the vessels. There were no white men except the Captain. The n Carroll's Brigade than he has in Ames's, but | crew was composed of slaves, and the blackest one among them was one Patrick Rooney. The Captain of the vessels did some tall swearing there is any question of the fact that the enemy | and called it a mean Yankee trick. The schooners were sent to Port Royal and turned over to the Quartermaster's Department. While lying in Bull's Bay we captured the steamer Emily, were adjoining Weidrich's. The writer was from Nassau, N. P., and also the schooner Elmira Cornelius, which vessel I returned North in. The remainder of my time I spent in the North Atlantic Squadron. In reading THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE I am surprised to see so little about the naval operations in the great

[THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE has repeatedly requested the blue jackets to write communications, and stands ready at any time to start a separate department for them. - EDITOR.]

No Reason Why They Should, E. W. Thompson, M. D., 302 East Broadway, New York, writes: "In this week's issue I find an article headed 'No Place for Sires in the G.A.R.' Why should there be a place for those who took no active part in the army or navy during the war? Many sous went in direct opposition to the wishes of fathers and brothers should those fathers or brothers be admitted Why should they have a place in the G.A.R., when men of honor, loyalty, education and skill are debarred? I refer to the Acting As-

Homes for Settlers. H. C. Parmalee, 27th Ohio, Winchester,

Tenn., writes: "In answer to many inquiries from old comrades, I will say that Franklin Co., Tenn., is in the front ranks of the leading agricultural districts of the South. There are many old soldiers located on farms in this County, and more promise to come. Land may be bought for from \$8 to \$60 per acre. This land is susceptible of a high state of cultivation. Land in the barrens or range can be bought from \$1 to any price. It could be made to produce crops by underdraining. There are many chalybeate, sulphur and many other health-giving springs throughout the County. Coal, iron, and all the finest soft and hardwood timber abound. Winchester, the Countyseat, is a beautiful town of 2,000 inhabitants, and is situated on a fork of Elk River, and on high, rolling ground, and is noted for its thrift, healthfulness, and beautiful location. It has good public and private schools, good churches, captured by the rebels at Sabine Pass after they | and pure water. The Cumberland Mountains are about five miles south, and the surrounding scenery is beautiful and picturesque."

Wants to Exchange. Mrs. Nellie Clifton, 122 Albany avenue. Chicago, writes: "What has any of the comrades unimproved farm of 160 acres in a western State, only six miles from a live town? There is plenty of water and a good school near the farm. I have no use for it and will take smaller improved farm or town property in a good location. Would assume a small incumbrance on another farm. Will take real estate

I. M. Wallace, Co. A, 80th Ohio, Murrayville, W. Va., writes: "I, too, was a soldier for 18 months. I was born Feb. 3, 1848; enlisted February, 1864; was mustered out Aug. 13, 1865. I was in all the Southern States except Louisiana and Florida. Why don't the boys of Co. A. 80th Ohio, do more writing for THE NA-TIONAL TRIBUNE? I should like to hear from them."

Information Asked and Given. S. B. Row writes: "On the 6th of July, 1863,

I visited Gettysburg, Pa., officially, as a Special Agent of the Postoffice Department. While passing along the lines of the Union army on Cemetery Hill I picked up, close to the stone fence, a small, coverless Bible, which I have preserved as a relic of that memorable battle. When found it was covered with mud, which time has so far removed as to render some pencil-writing on the fly-leaves legible. On one are the names of George Hyatt and William Hyatt; on another that of Timothy Harrington, West Henrietta, Monroe County, N. Y." John M. Dunsmore, Co. E. 110th Pa., Thayer, Kan., writes: "Semetime between May 7 and 12, 1864, during the Wilderness campaign, the undersigned found, lying near the dead body of a Union soldier, a small black portfolio marked, as near as it can be deciphered now, M. B. Canron, Co. B. 28th Mass, Vols.' I would like to return it to the owner if living."

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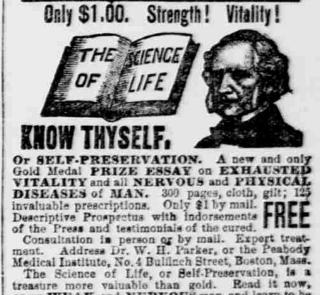
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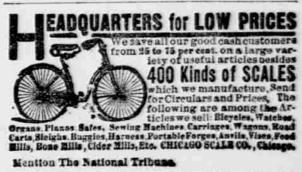
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